

ACCC STATEMENT ON THE "TORONTO BLESSING"

November 7, 1996 (David Cloud, Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org; for instructions about subscribing and unsubscribing or changing addresses, see the information paragraph at the end of the article) -

The following is the statement issued on the "Toronto Blessing" by the American Council of Christian Churches, at their 55th annual convention, October 22-24, 1996 --

Whereas the American Council of Christian Churches believes that the true gospel ministry of Jesus Christ is a full-orbed message of salvation, comfort, guidance and warning (II Timothy 3:16), and therefore serious warning must be given concerning the so-called "Toronto Blessing," the Vineyard Movement, and other similar pseudo cults attempting to counterfeit the ministry of the Holy Ghost; and Whereas our Lord Jesus Christ tells clearly of the work of the Holy Spirit--that He "shall not speak of Himself" but "He shall glorify me" (John 14:13,14)--the Bible tells us that God is a HOLY God who is to be worshipped in "the beauty of holiness" (Psalm 29:2), and the "Toronto Blessing" meetings demonstrate carnality, confusion, and unholiness in prostrations, barking like dogs, jerking, unholy laughter and music; and Whereas these movements are encouraging unity with Roman Catholics and others on the basis of physical and mental "manifestations" to the exclusion of the clear commands of Scripture that call for separation from declension, compromise, and apostasy; and Whereas these movements claim to be instruments of revival but are leading many away from the path of genuine revival, which can never result from compromise and apostasy. Be it therefore resolved that the American Council of Christian Churches, meeting in annual convention October 22-24, 1996, in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, warns the people of God of the errors of the "Toronto Blessing" movement--which demonstrates a mixture of emotionalism, hypnotism, and demonism--and calls upon all Bible-believing Christians to earnest prayer and supplication that God, in His infinite mercy, would send a genuine awakening and "revive" His "work in the midst of the years" (Habakkuk 3:2). [If more information is desired, contact Dr. Ralph Colas, Executive Secretary. Voice: (610)566-8154; E-Mail: accc@juno.com; Fax: (610)892-0992.]